AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) The operating unit of Claim 1~~3~~, wherein the elongate mechanical transmission elements comprise two push-pull cables.

3. (Currently Amended) The operating unit of Claim 2, wherein the actuator means include ~~a control unit~~shaft means for controlling the movement of the elongate mechanical transmission elements.

4. (Currently Amended) The operating unit of Claim 3, further including an electronic control unit operatively interposed between the ~~control unit~~actuator means and sensor means, wherein said sensor means can detect the instantaneous position of the remote gearshift means of the gearbox, the electronic control unit being arranged to process signals coming from the sensor means and to send operating signals to the ~~control unit~~actuator means in order to bring about the movement of the elongate transmission elements in a manner such that the elongate transmission elements bring about the engagement of the selected transmission ratio of the gearbox which corresponds to the instantaneous position of the remote gearshift means.

5. (Original) The operating unit of Claim 4, wherein the remote gearshift means, the electronic control unit, and the actuator means are disposed in an environment separated from an

engine compartment of a motor vehicle, the elongate mechanical transmission elements being disposed predominantly in the engine compartment.

6. (Original) The operating unit of Claim 5, wherein the elongate mechanical transmission elements extend through a fireproof partition interposed between the engine compartment and a passenger compartment of the motor vehicle, the actuator means being disposed in the vicinity of the fireproof partition, within the passenger compartment.

7. (Previously Presented) The operating unit of Claim 6, wherein the fireproof partition constitutes a reaction element for a sheath for the sliding of a respective push-pull cable.

8. (Currently Amended) The operating unit of Claim 3, wherein the actuator means for controlling the movement of the elongate mechanical transmission elements are electromechanical.

9. (Currently Amended) The operating unit of Claim 8, wherein the actuator means for controlling the movement of the elongate mechanical transmission elements include, for each elongate element, an electric motor which can rotate a cylindrical casing having an internal thread in engagement with a screw element connected to an end of the respective elongate element.

10. (Original) The operating unit of Claim 9, wherein the electric motor has a drive shaft to which a pinion is keyed, the pinion meshing with a gear connected for rotation with another gear which meshes with a ring gear connected to the outer surface of the cylindrical casing.

11. (Previously presented) The operating unit of Claim 9, wherein the screw element includes a coaxial and integral shaft having the function of a rectilinear guide for the movement of the screw element relative to the internal thread of the cylindrical casing, an end of the coaxial shaft being connected to an end of a respective push-pull cable.

12. (Currently Amended) A motor vehicle including an operating unit for servo-assisted operation of a motor-vehicle gearbox according to claim 13.

13. (New) An operating unit for servo-assisted operation of a motor-vehicle gearbox having a pair of mechanical operating members for selection and engagement, respectively, the combined movement of which brings about the engagement of a selected gear rations of the gearbox, the operating unit comprising,

remote manual gearshift means moveable into a plurality of positions for engagement of a desired gear ratio,

actuator means remote from the gearbox and operatively connected to the manual gearshift means for controlling the combined movement of the mechanical operating members in response to the position of the manual gearshift means, and

flexible elongate mechanical transmission elements connecting the actuator means to the mechanical operating members,

whereby upon movement of the manual gearshift means to one of the positions results in the engagement of the corresponding gear ratio of the gearbox by the actuator means acting on the mechanical operating members through the flexible elongate mechanical transmission elements.